

MARVEL®
25th
ANNIVERSARY

© 1986 MARVEL COMICS GROUP

75¢ US
95¢ CAN
374 DEC
02450

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

the mighty THOR



STAN LEE
PRESENTS:

the MIGHTY THOR

LONG AGO, FAR BENEATH THE
STREETS OF MANHATTAN,
A SERIES OF TUNNELS
WERE BUILT, ABANDONED,
AND EVENTUALLY FORGOTTEN.

IN TIME, THE MORLOCKS,
A CLAN OF MUTANTS, TOOK
UP RESIDENCE IN THE
EMPTY CATACOMBS AND
LIVED THERE IN SECRET.

BUT NOW, THE SECRET IS
OUT! SOMEONE IS
KILLING THE MORLOCKS...

HEADS UP,
GOLDLLOCKS!
'CAUSE THIS TIME
THEY'RE GONNA BE
CARRYIN' YOU
OUT FEET
FIRST!

...AND THE MIGHTY THOR,
GOD OF THUNDER, IS
FACE TO FACE WITH THREE
OF THE ASSASSINS!

IT SEEMS THAT MUTANTS
AREN'T THE ONLY ONES
THE ASSASSINS ARE IN-
TERESTED IN KILLING!

FIRE OF the NIGHT!

WRITING...
WALTER SIMONSON
DRAWING...
SAL BUSCEMA

LETTERING...
JOHN WORKMAN
COLORING...
MAX SCHEELE

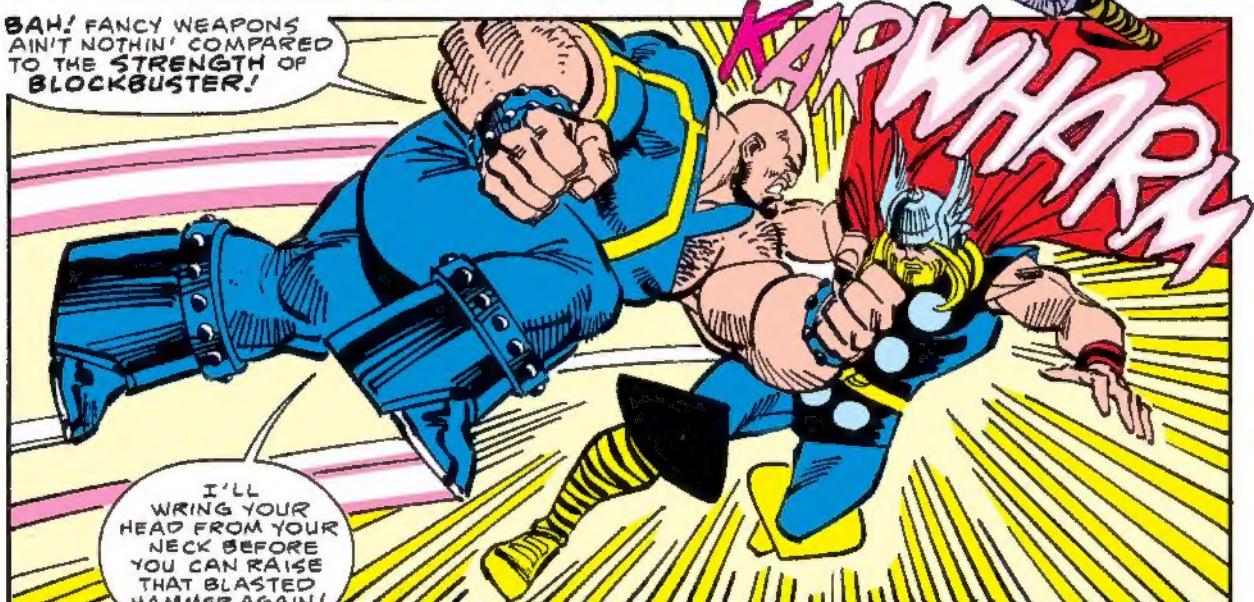
EDITING...
RALPH MACCHIO
EDITING IN CHIEF...
JIM SHOOTER

YOU SCARED US OFF WITH A LITTLE MUMBO-JUMBO THE FIRST TIME AROUND, BUT THE MARAUDERS ARE READY FOR YOU NOW!



*Last issue
--Ralf-Eth

NOTHING THAT LIVES CAN SURVIVE THE POWER OF MY ENERGY LANCES!



YOU HAD BEST MOVE MORE QUICKLY IF YOU EXPECT TO WRITE THOR'S EPITAPH.

NO FORCE OF MORTAL MAN CAN STAY MY HAND OR THE POWER OF MY HAMMER!

WHRAACKK!

ARRGHH! VERTIGO! QUICK! ZAP HIM!

THAT'S ENOUGH FROM YOU, HANDSOME. WHEN I'M FINISHED WITH YOU, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO STAND UP, LET ALONE LIFT YOUR HAMMER!

DOZINESS ASSAULTS ME FROM EVERY QUARTER!

AND IF I FALL, THEN SURELY MY FOES WILL OVERCOME ME!

A VORTEX SPUN BY MJOLNIR MAY REVERSE THE EFFECTS OF VERTIGO'S ATTACK!

LET FIRE FIGHT FIRE! ARE YOU PROOF AGAINST YOUR OWN POWER, LADY?

OHHHHH!

I'M LOSING MY BALANCE!

ENOUGH!



LET THE LIGHTNING AND THE STORM SPEAK WITH THE VOICE OF THOR!



FLEE, CRAVENS!
YOU WILL NOT
ESCAPE THE WRATH
OF THOR!

JUST RETRIBUTION
SHALL BE YOUR LOT
FOR THE FOUL DEEDS
YOU HAVE WROUGHT
HERE BENEATH THE
EARTH!

BUT WHAT
OF THEIR
LATEST
VICTIM?

UHHHHH.

HE WAS NOT
GOING QUIETLY
TO HIS DEATH
AS OTHERS THE
MARAUDERS
HAVE SLAIN
HERE.

HIS WOUNDS
ARE GRAVE,
HIS HEAD
FEVERISH.
THOUGH
I AM NO
LONGER
THE MORTAL
DOCTOR
AS I ONCE
WAS, EVEN
A BLIND MAN
WOULD KNOW
THAT THE
NEED FOR
MEDICAL AT-
TENTION IS
URGENT!

UHHHHH, IS
ARTIE SAFE?
DID... HE
MAKE IT?

I GUESS
HE DIDN'T.
I... CAN'T
SEEM TO
GET ANY-
THING
RIGHT
ANYMORE.

HE SEEMS
DIFFERENT
FROM THE
SCORES OF DEAD
I HAVE SEEN
WITHIN THE
TUNNELS. YET
HIS FEATURES
ARE VAGUELY
FAMILIAR.

HE
WEARS THE
TATTERED
REMAINS OF
A UNIFORM
AND BEARS
THE WOUNDS
OF RECENT BATTLE

JUST LEAVE
ME ALONE
... LET ME DIE.



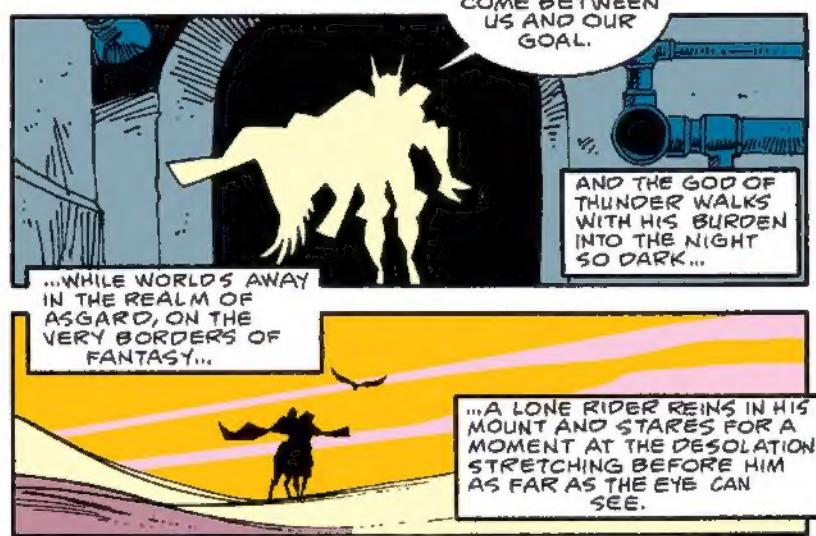
THE WILL TO
LIVE IS VITAL
IF HE IS TO
SURVIVE HIS
INJURIES.

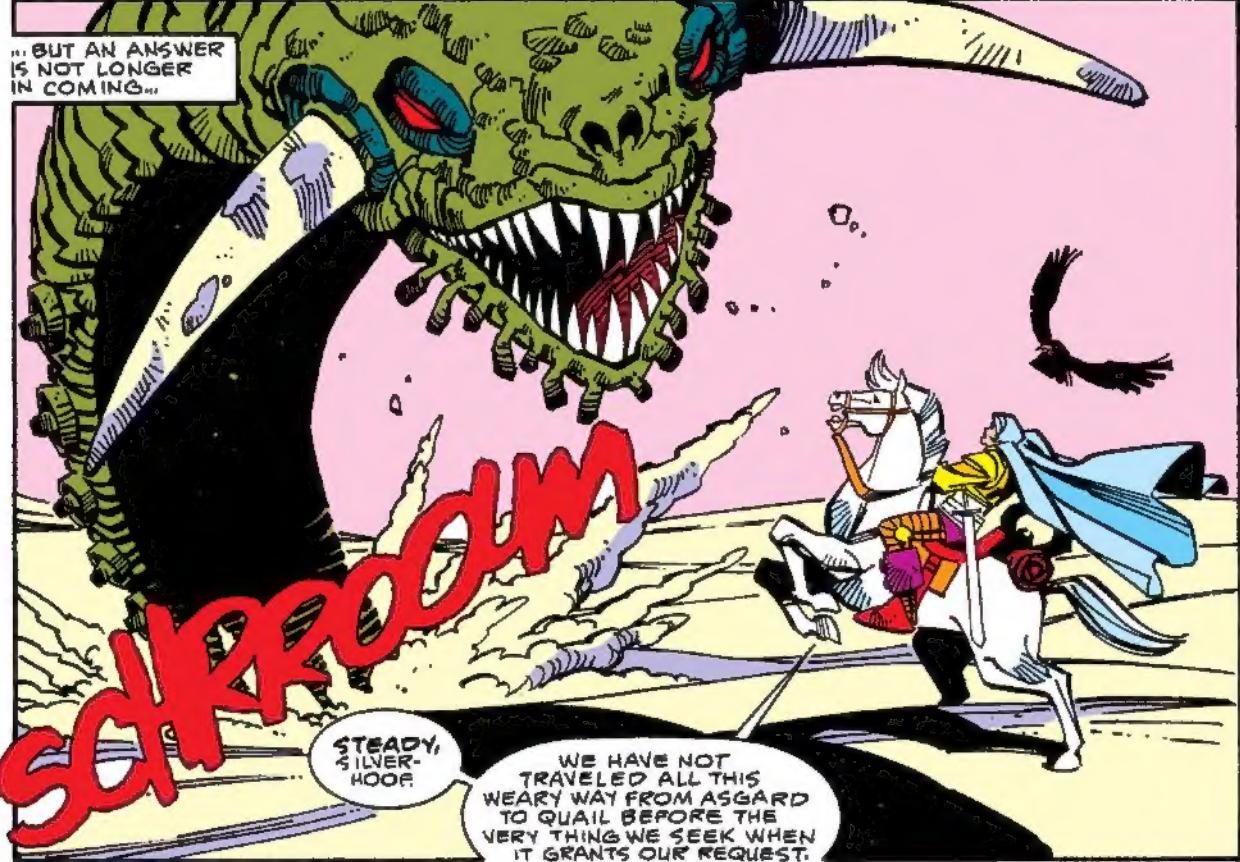
THE DOCTOR
I ONCE WAS
DEMANDS THAT
I SUCCOR HIS
NEEDS, BUT THE
VIKING WARRIOR
IS NOT SO SURE.

HE HAS GIVEN
HIS ALL IN BATTLE AND
VALHALLA WOULD BE HIS REWARD IN MY
WORLD, SHOULD I DENY HIM HIS
DYING WISH IN THIS ONE?



EH?





WYRD BIDS
THEE WELCOME,
GENTLE
BALDER.

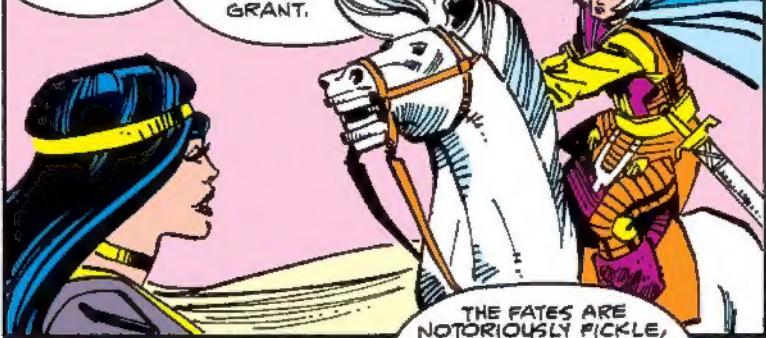
FEW INDEED
WEAR THE TOKENS
OF THE SISTERS OF
FATE AND FEWER
STILL HAVE EVER
RETURNED TO SEEK
A SECOND
AUDIENCE.*



*Balder met
the fates a
long time
back, gentle
readers
-- Gentle
Ralf

NECESSITY
COMPELLED
MY JOURNEY,
MY LADY.

I HAVE COME TO
ASK A FAVOR. ONE
WHICH ONLY THE
FATES THEM-
SELVES CAN
GRANT.



THE FATES ARE
NOTORIOUSLY PICKLE,
BUT WE CANNOT
REFUSE THE UNSELFISH
REQUEST OF BALDER
THE SHINING WHO
WEARS THE WHITE
TOKEN.

BUT BEWARE,
MY BRAVE.
WYRD MAY ONE
DAY ASK THAT
THE FAVOR BE
RETURNED.



THIS IS WHAT YOU
HAVE COME FOR, IS
IT NOT? A VIAL OF
WATER FROM THE
WELL OF LIFE
ITSELF?

USE IT WISELY.
SUCH A GIFT
CANNOT BE
GIVEN TWICE.

BUT--
HOW DID
YOU
KNOW?



DID YOU YOURSELF
NOT SAY, "THE BURN-
ING GAZE OF UN-
BLINKING EYES THAT
SEE EVERYTHING,"
BALDER?

AND THE FATE
OF BALDER IS OF
SPECIAL INTEREST
TO THE WATCHING
EYES OF THE THREE
SISTERS.

WHEN THE RAVEN,
MUNINN, RETURNED
TO ASGARD FROM
THE DEPTHS OF
MUSPELHEIM, HE
CAME
ALONE.

BUT MUNINN
BROUGHT A SINGLE
FEATHER BACK FROM
THAT LAND OF
FIRE.*

AND WHEN
MUNINN GAVE
ME THE FEATHER,
I THOUGHT OF
WYRD'S WELL
OF
LIFE.



HIS
BROTHER,
HUGINN, DID
NOT RETURN.



long ago and far away
--THOR 344--RM.

'TIS
DONE!



THE FEATHER
GLOWS! IT
TREMbles IN MY
HAND LIKE A
LIVING THING!

HUGINN!
HUGINN
LIVES!

THE RAVENS
OF ODIN SHALL
SOAR ABOVE THE
MOUNTAINS OF
THE NINE
WORLDS
AGAIN!

MY LADY
WYRD, FROM
THE BOTTOM
OF MY HEART,
I THANK--

MY
LADY?



GONE
LIKE THE
WIND ACROSS
THE SANDS.

AND YET, I
THINK SHE
ALREADY KNOWS
MY THOUGHT.

MY THANKS,
LADY, WHEREVER
YOU MAY BE. THE
GRATITUDE OF
BALDER IS
THINE.



COME,
MUNINN!
COME, HUGINN!
THE GOLDEN
REALM OF
ASGARD AWAITS
OUR RETURN!



GARTH--THE DEEP
TUNNELS BENEATH
MANHATTAN...

LOOKS LIKE OUR JOB'S
JUST ABOUT DONE, SABER-
TOOTH. TOO BAD ABOUT
THAT GUY WITH THE
WINGS.

HE'S LUCKY THOR
SHOWED UP WHEN HE
DID. I SURE WOULD
LIKE TO HAVE NAILED HIM
BUT HE WAS WAY OUT OF
MY LEAGUE.

YOU SHOULD
HAVE SEEN HIM
SHATTER MY
HARPOON!

PITY I
WASN'T WITH YOU,
HARPOON. THERE
ISN'T MUCH MY
CLAWS WON'T CUT,
AND MY SPEED'S
SECOND TO NONE.

GOD OR NO
GOD, I COULD
HAVE TORN HIM
APART!

OF COURSE, OUR
TEAM DOES HAVE
A STRONGMAN
ON IT, BUT I
SUPPOSE HE
JUST WASN'T
UP TO
IT.

GOOD ENOUGH
FOR MORLOCKS MAY-
BE, BUT NOT FOR A
GOD, OR WHATEVER
THOR REALLY
IS.

BUT IT'S
TOUGH TO GET
GOOD HELP.

RIGHT, BLOCK-
BUSTER?

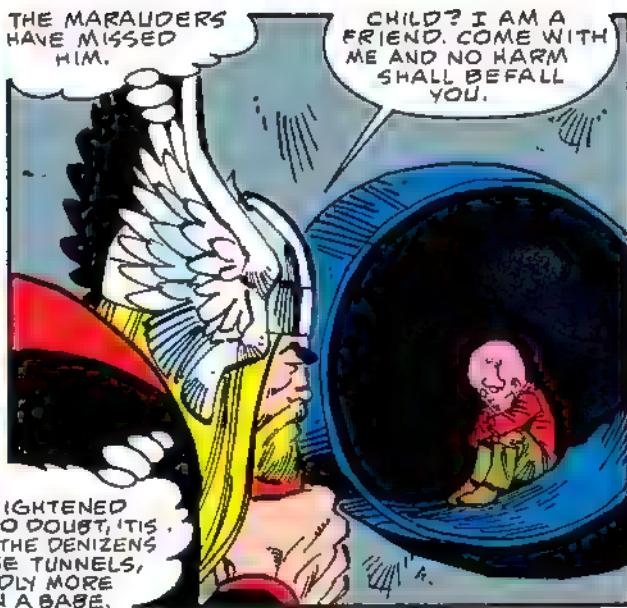


AW, LET HIM ALONE,
SABER TOOTH. YOU
WEREN'T THERE. YOU
DON'T GET SINGED
BY THAT LIGHTNING.

"GOOD ENOUGH
FOR MORLOCKS,
BUT NOT FOR
A GOD."
SIMP!

AND THEN I'M
GONNA COME BACK,
MR. SMART GUY, AND
TAKE YOU APART,
CLAW BY CLAW!







MY WINGS CAN'T CARRY MY WEIGHT, BUT I WON'T BE DOING ANY MORE FLYING ANYWAY!

HUH?

SHOULDA PLAYED DEAD, CHUCKLE-HEAD! MAYBE IF I RIP OUT A FEW MORE OF YER FEATHERS, YOU'LL GET A LITTLE SMARTER!

AAAAAAA
GGGGGG!

WELL, WADDYA KNOW, THE WINGED WONDER IS BACK!

A MOMENT'S RESPITE HAS REVIVED ME, BUT AT WHAT COST?

NOW MUST COME THE MOMENT OF RECKONING!

BLOCKBUSTER! MINION OF EVIL! TURN AND FACE THE SON OF ODIN!

EVERYBODY'S COMIN' BACK FROM THE DEAD TODAY! I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU IN A SECOND, GOLDILOCKS!

YOUR TIME, BLOCK-BUSTER, HAS RUN OUT!

MAY HELA, GODDESS OF DEATH, DEAL WITH YOU AS YOU DESERVE, ASSASSIN!

KRAKSHSH!!

BUT YOU, BRAVE WARRIOR, YOU HAVE SAVED THE LIFE OF THE THUNDER GOD AND THOR SHALL NEVER FORGET IT.

MAY THE FATES GRANT THAT YOU SURVIVE.

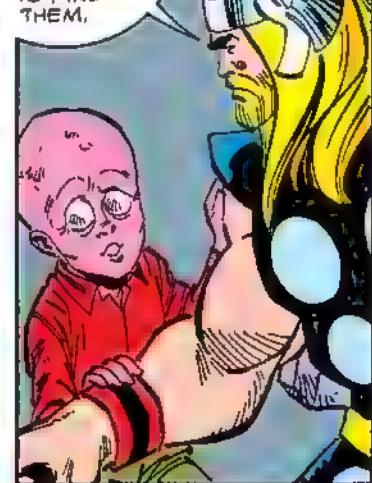
IT WOULD BE A TRAGEDY FOR SUCH A BRAVE WARRIOR TO PERISH.

WE HAD BEST SEE ABOUT FINDING A WAY OUT OF THIS LABYRINTH OF--YES, ARTIE?

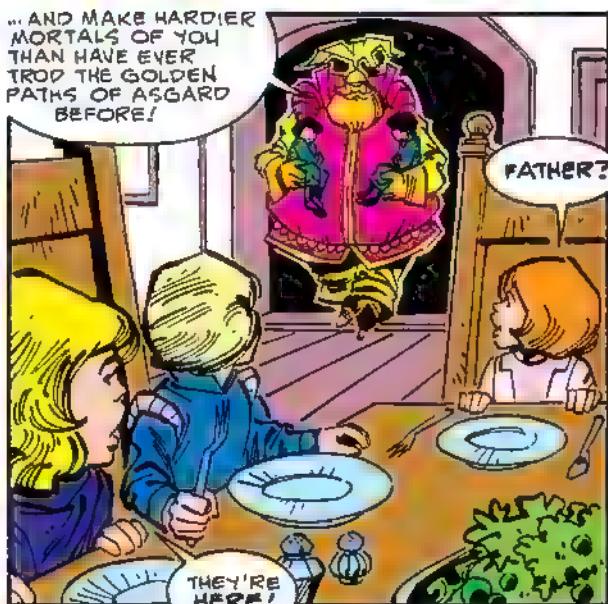
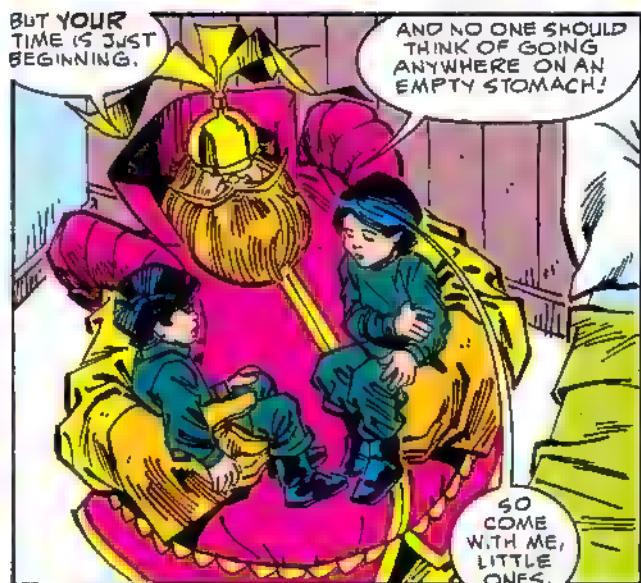
ANOTHER OF YOUR VISIONS? A MAN AND WOMAN WEARING UNIFORMS SIMILAR TO THAT OF OUR ANGEL, HIS COMPANIONS?

THEY LOOK FAMILIAR SOMEHOW. I SEEM TO REMEMBER THEM FROM SOME OTHER TIME AND PLACE.

AND THE TUG ON MY ARM TELLS ME THAT YOU MAY KNOW HOW TO FIND THEM.



MEANWHILE, FAR AWAY IN ASGARD, IN THE HOUSE OF VOLSTAGG THE ENORMOUS...



AND SUDDENLY, VOLSTAGG'S DINING ROOM IS INUNDATED WITH CHILDREN!

HU! FATHER TOLD US YOU MIGHT COME DOWN FOR BREAKFAST, BUT WE DIDN'T BELIEVE HIM! DADDY'S SUCH A LIAR!

HE SAID YOU CAME FROM MIDGARO!

THAT'S EARTH, YOUNG LADY.

ER... I... GUESS WE DO.

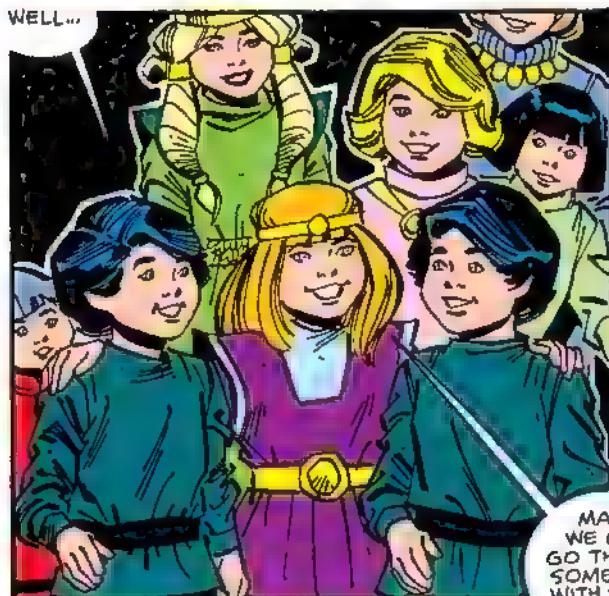
I'M MICK. THIS IS KEVIN. HE DOESN'T SAY MUCH

I'M GUNNHIOLD, BUT NOBODY CALLS ME THAT BECAUSE I DON'T LIKE IT! I'M REALLY HILDA!

AND YOU'RE REALLY FROM EARTH? THAT'S GREAT!

NONE OF US HAVE EVER BEEN TO EARTH. WE WANT TO HEAR ALL ABOUT IT!

WELL...



MAYBE WE CAN GO THERE SOMETIME WITH YOU!



WHY CAN'T THEY SIT HERE?

MOMMM!

MEANWHILE, IN THE TUNNELS BENEATH MANHATTAN...

IT IS AS THOUGH HE POSSESSES A SEEING-EYE MIND!

LITTLE ARTIE'S ABILITIES ARE FASCINATING.

HIS VISIONS SEEM NOT ONLY TO BE ABLE TO SHOW HIS THOUGHTS, BUT ALSO TO GUIDE HIM WHERE HE WISHES TO GO.

AND IT WOULD SEEM HE HATH FOUND THE ONES HE SOUGHT!

ARTIE!

OH THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE SAFE, ARTIE!

WE WERE SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU!

JEAN! LOOK! THERE'S SOMEBODY ELSE! IT... IT'S THE AVENGER THOR--WITH ANGEL!

YOUR COMRADE IS SORELY INJURED AND IN NEED OF MEDICAL ATTENTION

GUESS I REALLY COULDN'T CARRY MY OWN WEIGHT THIS TIME. YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE COME BACK FOR ME.

I'M NOT WORTH IT.

IF YOU THOUGHT WE WALKED THROUGH FIRE AND BLOOD TO FIND YOU...

...SO WE COULD CARRY YOU BACK TO X-FACTOR HQ AND DUMP YOU DOWN THE GARBAGE DISPOSAL, MISTER...

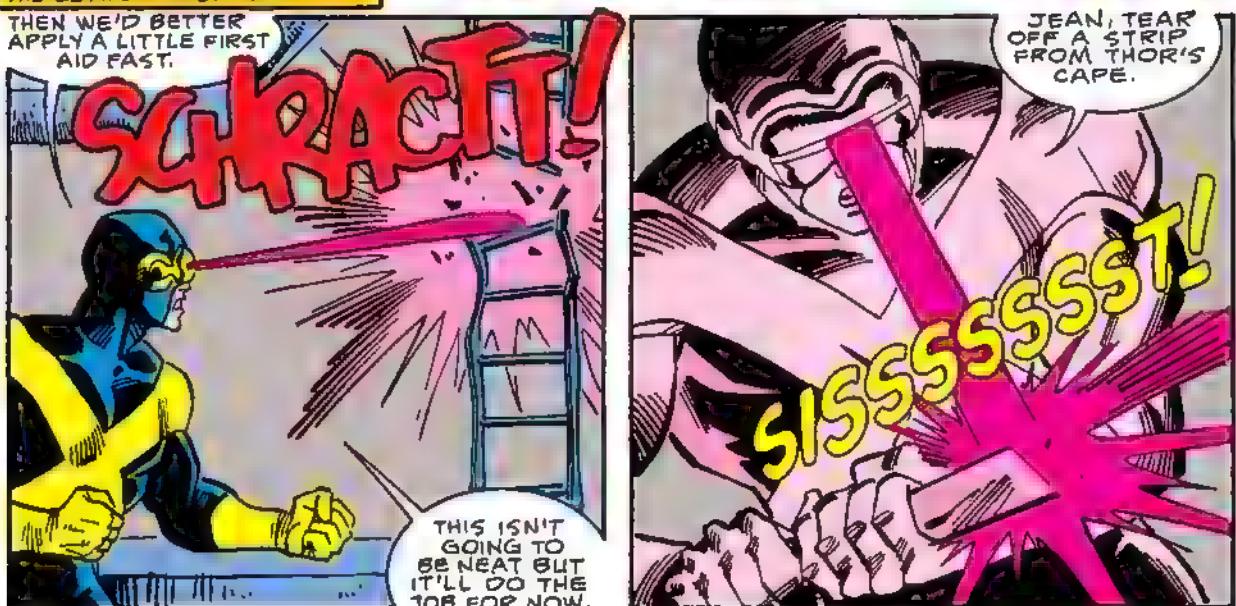
...YOU'VE GOT ANOTHER THING COMING!

ANGEL!



*AS SEEN IN AN X-MEN ISSUE FROM THE DAWN OF TIME! --RM

THEN WE'D BETTER APPLY A LITTLE FIRST AID FAST.



THIS SHOULD HOLD YOUR ARM SECURELY TILL YOU CAN HAVE IT LOOKED AFTER, THOR.

NOW WE'VE GOT TO GET BACK AND FIND A DOCTOR FOR ANGEL.

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE DEAD? WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE THEM HERE.



I WILL GIVE THEM A VIKING'S FUNERAL.

UH, LISTEN, THOR. WHEN YOU GET UP STAIRS, YOU'RE GOING TO HEAR SOME THINGS ABOUT US THAT AREN'T TRUE.

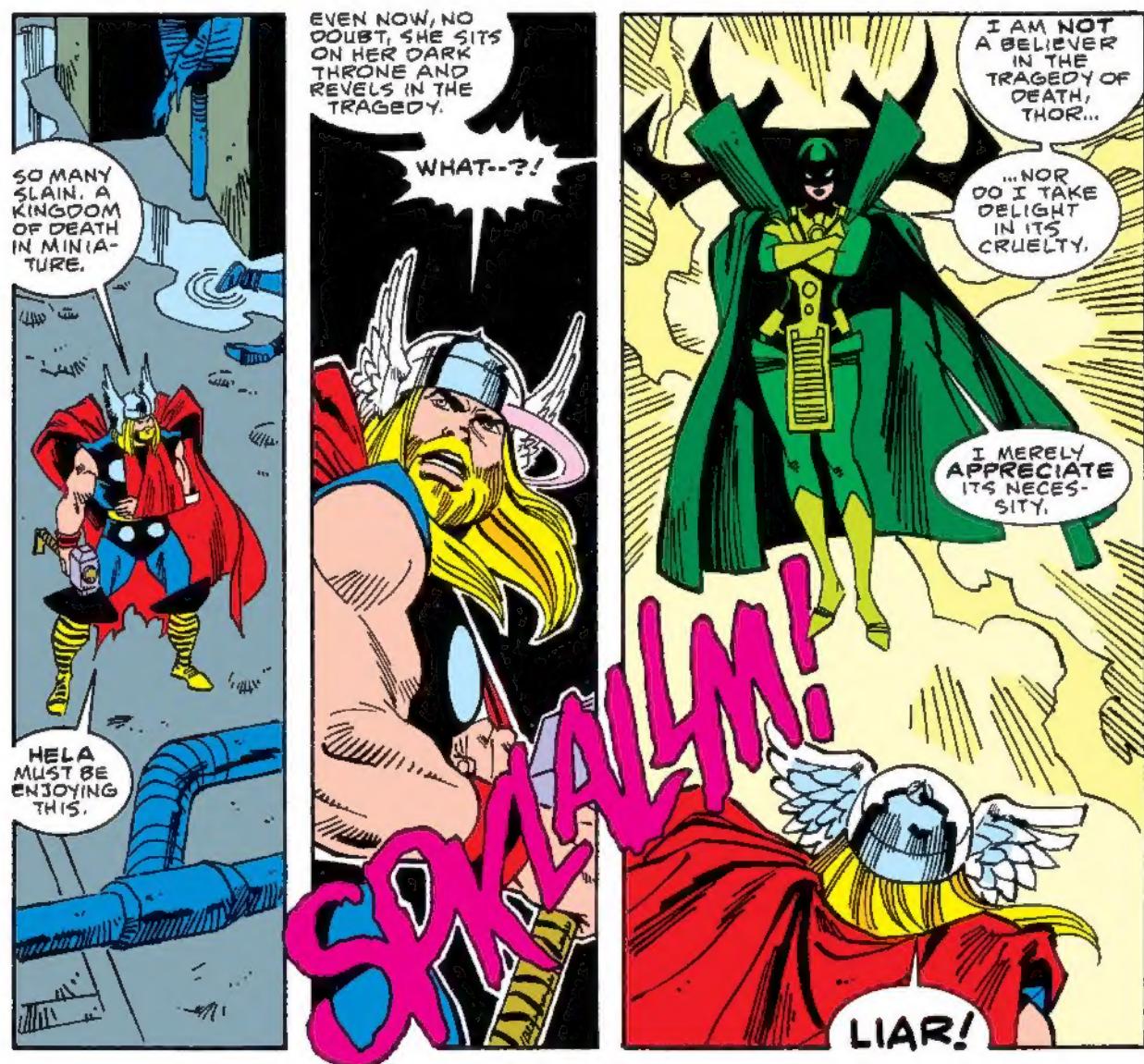
YOU HAD BEST LEAVE THE TUNNELS. DO NOT TARRY.

WHAT I MEAN IS... WE'RE NOT EXACTLY WHAT EVERYONE THINKS WE ARE.

I LEARNED A LONG TIME AGO NOT TO JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER... OR A MAN BY WHAT THE NEWSPAPERS SAY ABOUT HIM.

WE APPRECIATE THAT, THOR. MORE THAN YOU CAN KNOW. YOU'D BETTER SEE A DOCTOR ABOUT THAT ARM AS SOON AS YOU CAN.





WELL, PERHAPS I DO ENJOY IT A LITTLE. THE CRAFTSMAN TAKES A CERTAIN PRIDE IN THE SKILL OF HIS HANDS, DOES HE NOT?

FOR I AM GOING TO TEACH THE MIGHTY THOR WHO HAS NEVER KNOWN FEAR BEFORE TO BE AFRAID!

DO YOU REMEMBER THE WEAKNESS YOU FELT AS YOU LEFT ASGARD TO RETURN TO EARTH*?

FROM THIS DAY FORTH, THE MIGHTY THOR, WARRIOR OF ASGARD, WILL FEAR TO ENTER COMBAT. FOR HIS BONES ARE NOW AS BRITTLE AS THOSE OF AN OLD WOMAN AND WHEN THEY BREAK, THEY WILL NOT HEAL!



BUT FAR MORE WILL I ENJOY WHAT IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN TO YOU.

IN FACT, I HAVE JOURNEYED ALL THIS WEARY WAY FROM HEL TO SHARE THE KNOWLEDGE WITH YOU.



'TWAS THE KISS OF HELA'S GIFT, THOR, THE GIFT YOU FEEL NOW.

*AT the beginning of last issue --RM



NOR WILL YOU FIND RESPITE IN THE ARMS OF DEATH, FOR I HAVE CAST YOU OUT!



YOU WILL SCREAM OUT HELA'S NAME IN AGONY! YOU SHALL LONG FOR DEATH!

AND THE ABSENCE OF DEATH IS ETERNAL LIFE! THE GOD OF THUNDER WILL LINE FOR EVER!

UNTIL HIS EVERY WAKING DESIRE SHALL BE TO DIE!

AND PERHAPS SOMEDAY, IF IT PLEASES ME, I MAY RELEASE YOU!

BUT IT MAY NEVER PLEASE ME!

THUS AM I REVENGED FOR MY HUMILIATION AT YOUR HANDS IN HEL, THUNDERER*!

*THOR'S 360/362--RM



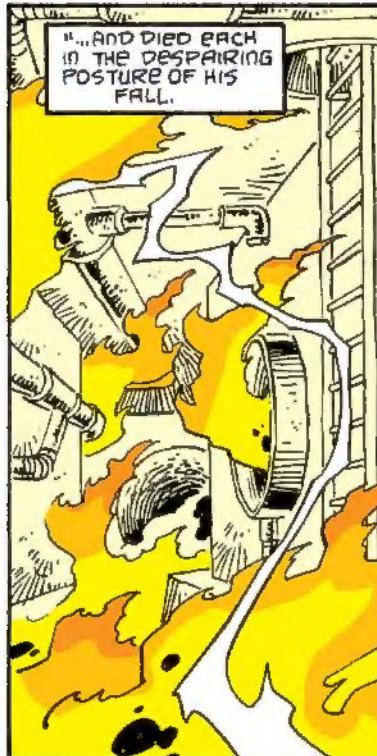
HELA!



HELA!

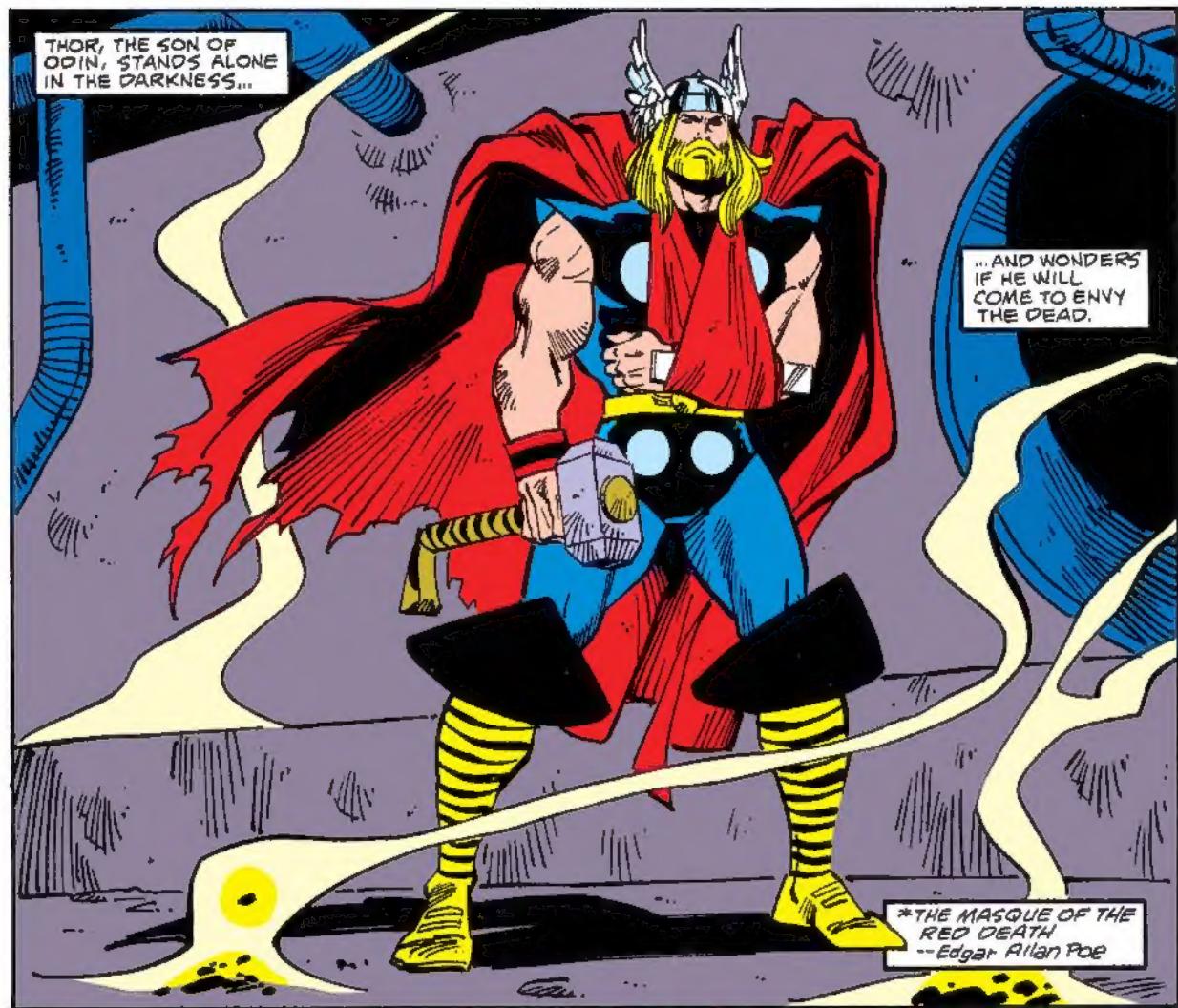
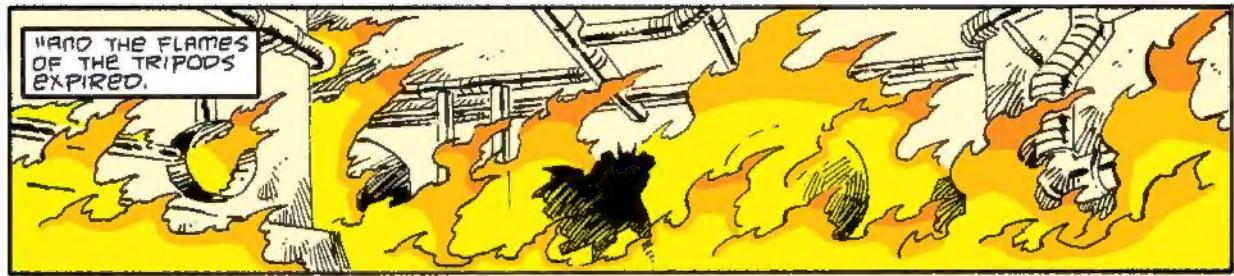


"AND NOW WAS ACKNOWLEDGED
THE PRESENCE OF THE RED
DEATH.



"AND THE LIFE OF THE EBONY
CLOCK WENT OUT WITH THAT
OF THE LAST OF THE GAY."





DISCONNECT THEM DRYBONES!
AN ABSORBING TALE OF EXO-SKELETAL DISSERTATIONS, Ephemeral VILLAINS, AND A GOOD RIBBING FOR THOR! ALONG WITH THE REAPPEARANCE OF ONE OF THOR'S MOST DANGEROUS FOES! DON'T SAY WE DIDN'T WARN YOU!